INTERDENOMINATIONAL WORK IN SANTO DOMINGO

A Board of Trustees made up of representatives from three denominations has been organized with Mrs. F. S. Bennett president. The program includes the development of social, educational and evangelistic work as an interdenominational undertaking. As a beginning of the work a building has already been purchased in Santo Domingo City. This building will be used for church service, for a clinic, a library and any clubs and classes started in connection with the work. It will also serve as a home for the workers. A physican and an American pastor have been secured. Sunday Schools have already been organized in Santo Domingo City and San Pedro de Macoris with two Porto Rican pastors in charge. For this work the Woman's Board of Home Missions gave up to March 31, 1921, $16,500 and the Board of Home Missions

SOME FACTS

Population of Santo Domingo 600,000.

Illiteracy 90—95% of those over 10 years of age.

Up to the present time no school building, as such, has ever been erected in all Santo Domingo. There are now a few in the process of construction.

Santo Domingo has only a few passable roads and just the beginning of a railway system in me

In remote places "savagery is found little removed from that of the Congo.

Adequate leadership is lacking.

Protestant forces at work—Episcopal Church has 27 stations in Haiti, one or two chapels in Santo Domingo; Wesleyan Methodists have two missionaries on Island; Moravians have several preaching points, but only for English-speaking negroes; two American negro denominations conduct evangelistic work.

copy

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November 24, 1920.

Dr. McDowell
Mrs. Woodruff
Mrs. Bennett
Dr. Marquis
Bishop Howard

In answer to the call for a meeting of the Santo Domingo Committee, there was a meeting held at 25 Madison Avenue, this morning, with the following members present: Mrs. F. S. Bennett, Messrs. Marquis, Dixon and Inman, and Mr. Roundy.

A letter from Mr. Drury, recently sent to Santo Domingo as Acting Superintendent of the proposed work, was read and discussed. A copy of that letter is inclosed.

Mr. Inman reported that the sum of $5,000 agreed upon as necessary for immediate expenses had been paid in to the office of the Committee on Cooperation in Latin America: $3,000 from the general Home Board of the M. E. Church, $1500 from the general Home Board of the Presbyterian (USA) Ch., and $1500 from the Woman's Board Home Missions of the Presbyterian (USA); and that $500 had been advanced to Mr. Drury for his expenses and $1000 for a contingent property fund. Acting on Mr. Drury's request, it was decided to place another $1000 to his credit in the Santo Domingo Bank.

The willingness of the Board of Missions of the United Brethren Church to enter the field and Bishop Howard's pledge of $10,000 for the next year's budget were reported.

Organization: -

It was recognized that the Committee had not been formally organized and there was great necessity for each organization immediately. It was therefore VOTED to request each cooperating board to appoint two members of the Board of Trustees. These ten trustees, representing the five cooperating boards, should select five others, not members of the boards, at the meeting December 17th, 1920. Since the whole program is being held up by the lack of organization and incorporation, each board is urged to appoint its trustees, immediately, even though they may be only temporary appointments, and these trustees meet Friday, December 17th, 1920, at 10:30 a.m. at 25 Madison Avenue, New York, to select the other five members, take steps toward incorporation, decide on personnel and salary of workers for the field that ought to be sent immediately. It was felt that it would be better to incorporate in New York State, if foreign corporations can do business in Santo Domingo.

Workers for Santo Domingo:-

Pending this meeting Mr. Inman was requested to look for workers to nominate to the Board. In regard to Mr. Drury's recommendation of Sr. Archilla, it was thought that Mr. Archilla would be a good man for Santo Domingo but that in the arrangements about salaries the Santo Domingo Committee of the Porto Rican churches should be consulted, so as not to cause dissatisfaction.

Deputations-

Acting on the suggestion already made, of having a deputation of the co-operating boards visit Santo Domingo in February, Mr. Inman reported that he had urged Dr. Forsyth and Bishop McConnell, who were going to Porto Rico, to include Santo Domingo in their trip and they had agreed to do so; it was VOTED to ask each of the cooperating boards to send one or more representatives as members of such a deputation, the final arrangements be made for the trip at the meeting on December 17th.

In conclusion it was felt that the formal, immediate organization of the Committee and Board of Trustees is imperative and each Board is urged to name its two representatives immediately and arrange for their attendance at the meeting for organization.

Please let me hear from you concerning the matters in this and Mrl Drury's letter. I shall also await the name of your trustees abd advice as to whether December 17th is a suitable date for the organisation meeting. I am enclosing you a suggested basis of salaries for your criticism. In order to work further on this will you please send me the scale of salaries of your missionaries in Porto Rico.

There are a number who are praying regularly for this great new work, for Mr. Drury and for the finding of the right personnel. The number might well be enlarged by our personal efforts.

Yours faithfully,

(signed) S. G. Inman

IX

Minutes of the

Committee for Christian Work in Santo Domingo

Held at 25 Madison Avenue, New York City, December 17th, 1920.

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Present: Mrs. F. S. Bennett, Miss Edna R. Voss, Dr. D.D. Forsyth, Dr. John A. Marquis, Dr. A.E. Keigwin, Mr. Francis S. Phraner, Dr. W. L. McDowell, Mr. S. G. Inman.

Dr. McDowell was elected chairman of the meeting.

Dr. Marquis led in prayer.

Trustees: The following trustees were reported as elected:

Home Board of the M.E. Church: D.D. Forsyth, W.L.McDowell.
Home Board, Presb. U.S.A.: A.E.Keigwin, Francis S. Phraner.
Woman's Home Board, Presb. U.S.A.: Mrs. F.S. Bennett and Miss Edna R. Voss.
Woman's Home Board, M.E. Church: Mrs. May L. Woodruff, Mrs. L. L. Slack.

It was decided to wait until all of the constituent bodies had elected their trustees before electing the officers of this Board.

Mrs. Bennett, Dr. Keigwin and Mr. Inman were appointed a committee on nominations for officers and for the five additional trustees that the constitution provides shall be coöpted.

IT WAS VOTED that the Committee on Cooperation in Latin America be requested to continue to act as financial agent for this board until the board is incorporated.

Consideration was given to the matter of the constitution for the Board for Christian Work in Santo Domingo, a suggested draft of which was presented by Mr. Inman. The constitution was adopted as per copy attached to these minutes.

IT WAS VOTED to make the working basis for missionary salaries at the present time as follows:

Salary of man and wife, $1800, with house rent extra and $150 per year for each child.
Salary of single worker, $1200, house rent extra.
A bonus of ten per cent for those living in the capital city and 15% for those at head of institutions.
Passage to and from the field to be furnished; one month's vacation each year on field and six month's furlough each three years in the United States.

Hospital Site: IT WAS VOTED to instruct Mr. Drury to buy the property in Santo Domingo that he suggests for a hospital at the price of $7,000.

Correspondence was read from Mr. Drury concerning several matters. He reported the appointment of two Porto Rican ministers for service in Santo Domingo and that they would begin meetings soon in Santo Domingo City and San Pedro de Macoris. He reported the probability of buying property in San Pedro de Macoris and that the Porto Rican churches might assume the responsibility for this property. This committee would approve the assumption of such responsibility by the Porto Rican churches and encourage the purchase of property in San Pedro.

IT WAS VOTED to place $1,000 additional credit to Mr. Drury in the Santo Domingo bank.

IT WAS VOTED that Mr. Inman purchase the two hundred seats, pulpit furniture and an organ which Mr. Drury requests be sent to Santo Domingo City for the opening of the first services.

The report concerning finances showed that there had been paid in by the Home Board of the M. E. Church, $3,000; the Home Board of the Presb. Church in the U. S. A, $1,500.; the Woman's Home Board of the Presb. Ch. U. S. A. $1,500; making a total of $6,000: expenses had been incurred amounting to $1,416.44 in all. The balance in the bank was $4,583.56; as per statement dated December 15th, 1920.

It was suggested that the Woman's Home Board of the M. E. Church and the United Brethren Board might pay in sums at the present time to advance the work.

Mr. Inman reported correspondence with the Secretary of the Free Methodist Mission Board, in which this Board expressed a strong desire that the territory which they occupy shall not be occupied by the United Board,

IT WAS VOTED that the invitation already sent by Mr. Inman to the Free Methodist Mission Board to join the United Board be heartily seconded by this Board and that the Free Methodists be asked to respond to this invitation as early as possible

As to sending a deputation to Santo Domingo, Dr. McDowell reported that Dr. Forsyth and Bishop McConnell are sailing from New York for Porto Rico on February 19th and that after a week in Porto Rico they will go to Santo Domingo. Hope was expressed that all of the cooperating boards might send members to visit the Santo Domingo field at that time.

IT WAS VOTED to ask Mr. Inman to go to Santo Domingo at that time, if possible.

It was reported that articles had been prepared for the Journal of International Relations, Current History Magazine, Pan American Magazine and the Missionary Review of the World, concerning Santo Domingo and that, answering a suggestion, the American Academy of Political and Social Sciences had arranged to send the head professor of sociology of the University of Pennsylvania, to Santo Domingo and Haiti for one year's study of the situation there. This professor, being a Christian man, will be glad to be of service in the development of the missionary program.

Mr. Inman was requested to prepare a lantern slide lecture for Santo Domingo.

The meeting adjourned at 12.30 p.m.

(Signed) S. C. Inman, Secretary.

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January 19th, 1921.

Miss Torrence.

A request has just come in from Mr. Inman through Mrs. Bennett that a first payment of $5,000. must be made toward the $50,000 purchase of property for interdenominational work in Santo Domingo and that a check for $1,250, the pro rated share of the Woman's Board should be sent at once to Mr. Inman, 25 Madison Avenue, New York City.

Superintendent of Schools.

V/M

71

Woman's Board of Home Missions

of the

Presbyterian Church in the United States of America

156 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

Ans.
Date FEB 1 - 1921
Noted
By

January 29, 1921.

Miss Edna R. Voss,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

My dear Miss Voss:

I am making a record that you may have when you return relative to Santo Domingo's budget. The Fiscal Year of the Board of Trustees is November 1st to October 31st and at the meeting yesterday it was felt that the $80,000 appropriated already should carry us through to October 31st next. Our Board originally appropriated $20,000 but withdrew $5000 so I suppose we shall have to appropriate after April 1st $5000 to finish up the Fiscal Year of the Santo Domingo Board. Then we will have to appropriate on our next year to meet the Santo Domingo year beginning November 1st. It was suggested that that Board should have $80,000 for next year but no vote was taken. I felt, however, that you would want this material while you are thinking of making up budgets for next year.

Faithfully yours,

M. Katharine Schmidt

February 14th, 1921.

Information for offices.

The total number of children in Santo Domingo in attendance upon the public schools is about 100,000. Owing to a financial crisis in Santo Domingo fully 60,000 of these are to be affected by a recent action curtailing the educational service of the country by 50%. 30,000 will probably receive no schooling and 30,000 will be cared for on part time. There is a splendid teachers association, which in a body is following the example of their Superintendent of Schools in decreasing their salaries 50% for the purpose of supporting the teachers dropped for a period of three months.

The Superintendent of Schools is most emphatically welcoming the Interdenominational program about to be carried out in Santo Domingo. There is fine material for Christian leadership in the Island.

Superintendent of Schools.

Letter written Mrs. F. S. Bennett by Rev. Phile W. Drury of Santo Domingo City.

April 2, 1921.

71

Mrs. F. S. Bennett,
169 Dwight Place,
Englewood, N. J.

My dear Mrs. Bennett:

I have recently received a letter from Mr. Inman in which he asks me to communicate with you regarding the work here. I take pleasure in doing this, as you are acquainted with the work and have a deep interest in it.

Just a few days ago I returned from Porto Rico, but on account of the bubonic plague in P.R. it was necessary for us to be in quarantine for five days under most abominable conditions. It was very fortunate that the deputation did not attempt to come here direct from P.R. I felt that it was absolutely necessary for me to return here as soon as possible, as there was a number of things that required attention.

The fact that the deputation was not able to visit us was a great disappointment. We were very anxious for them to be here on the field to consider some matters of great importance. I had prepared a statement for them but with the understanding that the matters there discussed would be considered here in S.D. and not in P.R. In fact, on account of not being able to study certain phases of our work here on the field, a number of things mentioned in the report were not discussed. I had been asked to delay action in reference to certain things until the deputation would be here, but since they were not able to come, things are considerably unsettled. The repairs on the building we have purchased and also the site for the hospital and the consideration of other properties were among the items to be considered. At the meeting in San Juan, I asked that a deputation be sent here at the earliest possible moment, but from the expressions given it seemed out of the question to expect the visit of a deputation very soon. Owing to this situation it was voted by the deputation that Mr. Orr and Mr. Andujar be asked to visit this field and go over the matter of the Macoris property with me. You are already familiar with this matter. This has not been feasible on account of the quarantine, and then Mr. Kane has written me that the deputation had no jurisdiction over administrative matters. Hence, nothing has been done in this respect.

I had been waiting very anxiously the visit of the deputation in order that we might plan definitely for our work here in the Capital. We have been considerably delayed, and I suggest that I be given authorization to proceed with the necessary repairs on our property so that it can be utilized at the earliest possible moment. We have workers here, and Mr. Huffmann will soon be here, so it seems that we should lose no further time. I have gone over the matter of repairs and remodeling very carefully, and just this afternoon I received an estimate from Mr. F. B. Hatch, the builder, on the repairs that I suggest. He studied with me the matter of remodeling and we are agreed as to what should be done. The estimate comes to about $4000 and includes all that is necessary to put the building in first class condition —fitting up a good auditorium, a book room, painting inside and outside, installation of all necessary plumbing, etc. His estimate does not include wiring for electricity (a new plant is now being installed and we shall have current in about six months) and some other items such as repairing of some of the yard walls, etc. It is evident that we shall easily come within the $5000 limit. This amount was included in your budget for remodeling and repairing, I believe. By the expenditure of this amount of money we shall have a very attractive place, and one which we shall be able to use for a number of years. In my letter of March 9 I made mention of $1500 for immediate repairs, but of course this amount would not be sufficient to put our building into the condition that would be necessary. This would provide for only the plumbing and a little painting. Since I have been given to understand that it is likely that it

will be necessary for us to use the building for some time to come, I favor larger improvements. By using this building we should have available funds for building a hospital which I consider of first importance.

You can readily see the need of plumbing when I tell you that there is none in our building. There is no water system nor is there any sewerage system. This means of course that we must use water from a well, which must be pumped to tanks about the height of the roof, and then we must provide for a cess-pool. I have had two different estimates made on our plumbing, and the lowest figure is $1200.

I trust that you will give authorization to proceed with this work, so that there will be no further delay in our work, and furthermore I kindly ask you to cable me an answer. This request I make because it now seems necessary that I leave this field about May 15, and I would be very much pleased to leave with the building all in readiness for service. Mr. Hatch says that he can finish up the work in three or four weeks. Perhaps I should say in this connection that it is impossible to get repair work of this kind done by responsible parties on a contract basis. It must be done on the percentage basis. The usual charge is 15%. This amount is included in Mr. Hatch's estimate. The large concrete buildings that Mr. Hatch is erecting in S.D. are being built on the percentage basis.

I had a talk with Mr. McDowell while he was in San Juan, and I expressed to him the hope that the Mocoris property would be had. I hope that this will still be possible. Yet I fear that this will not be possible if only $30000 is available for this year. Since I spoke of this to Dr. McDowell arrangements have been made for Mr. Huffman to come to this field, and doubtless arrangements have been made with a physician. This would draw upon our funds to such an extent that it would not seem possible to meet these additional expenses and also purchase the property in Mocoris. If this is the case I would suggest that we continue in rented quarters in Mocoris for the rest of this year and that a hospital site be purchased. The one that is offered us, and which is ideal, is offered to us for $3000. I believe that the churches in P.R. would be willing to help in the purchase of this site instead of the Mocoris property. If the entire obligation were not assumed, I believe that at least $3000 would be contributed toward this on the same conditions as the Mocoris property.

The owner of this property has called on me and has inquired as to our purpose. If we do not purchase at once, he says that he will change his plan to sell only good sized lots with special requirements in the section surrounding the hospital site, and will sell smaller lots for cheap houses. Mr. Aliben, Mr. Hatch, the builder, and Mr. Washburn, the architect, and others believe that we cannot find a better site. In my letter of January 27 to Mr. Inman I gave a brief description of this site. The owner asks that an answer be given by cable. I believe that this is due him inasmuch as he has been very kind in this matter.

If we can secure the cooperation of the Porto Rican churches to the extent of $3000 at once I feel confident that we can maintain our work on a creditable basis, purchase the hospital site, and yet not go over the $30000 furnished by the Board. Even tho for some reason the churches in P.R. would not care to contribute toward the hospital site, for the present, not having any other objective, I feel sure that they would consent to turn over to the Board the $3000 they have on hand with the understanding that a transfer be made later on, if so desired, not withdrawing the funds, but using them in some other way.

I am very anxious of seeing a small bookstore opened in connection with our work. Already we have books on hand to the value of about $300 for propaganda purposes, and if we had about $500 more available for books and equipment, we could have quite a respectable little establishment. I have already made arrangements with the American Bible Society to represent them on the southern coast, and in addition to furnishing us books they will grant us $25 a month on expenses. You can readily see the advantage to our work in having this agency. With the amount asked for above the bookstore would soon be self supporting. The establishment of the bookstore is in harmony with

desires of the Committee on Literature of the Committee on Cooperation in L.A., as expressed in the meeting held on March 1st. Of course it is readily seen how important the distribution of Christian literature is in the beginning of this work.

The purchase of our new property has been satisfactorily made. The deed will probably be given to me on Monday. It was necessary for me in harmony with the Dominican law, to purchase the property in my own name inasmuch as I had no power of attorney from the Board. I requested that a power be sent me some months ago but I was informed that the Board had not been incorporated. The entire transaction with registration, lawyer and other fees will call for the expenditure of almost $1000.

The furniture for our church here in the Capital has not been received. This was ordered through Mr. Inman. The Board authorized the purchase at its meeting on December 17. We are very much in need of this equipment. Then I have ordered 9 dozen chairs for San Pedro de Macoris. These I shall have to pay for here. The cost, including freight and duty, will be about ~~$$$$~~ $300. These chairs we are expecting at any time.

We shall soon have another worker - a Porto Rican minister - here on the field. His name is José Espada Marrero. He comes from the Methodist Church, and will be located at La Romana. This gives us three Porto Rican workers, representing three denominations. Their salaries will come within the budget the Board approved on January 28th.

I am of the opinion that it would be advisable to purchase an automobile for our work and would recommend the purchase of a Ford, which, fully equipped, would cost about $900. Inasmuch as both Mr. Huffman and Mr. Rodrigues will be here in the Capital, an automobile would make possible the looking after work in some of the adjoining towns.

From what goes before you will see something of our financial needs in case you approve the suggestions. I herewith summarize them.

Repair and remodeling of property	$500
Title and transfer of property	1000
Bookstore equipment and stock	500
Chairs for Macoris	300
Equipment for La Romana Hall	500
Automobile	900
Site for Hospital	9000

I have enough money on hand now for our immediate current expenses, but for the work herewith outlined funds should be sent. I would suggest that you send me at least $2000 by cable, and the remainder can be sent at once by mail, with the exception of the money for the hospital site. If you would send me $1000 on this, I could arrange to pay the remainder a little later on. If you would authorize me to spend but $9000 on the hospital site, and would put it in writing, I believe that we would be able to get the site for that amount. I certainly hope that you will approve these recommendations so that we can get the work here well under way soon. Inasmuch as I cannot be here for any length of time, I shall appreciate a very prompt reply. Please send me as much information as possible by cable.

On March 14 I wrote to Mr. Inman regarding Dr. K. B. Urban, who is a t Seybo, Dom. Rep. working under the direction of the Red Cross. Just last Sunday I met Dr. Urban and talked to him about taking up missionary work. Notwithstanding the fact that he feels that he is doing that kind of work now, he said that when we are ready to take up medical work he will be glad to hear from the Board. Dr. Urban is a young man, of very pleasing personality, and he is thereby interested in missionary work. His wife

is a daughter of a Methodist South minister. Dr. Urban has been here only a few months, yet he seems to be making considerable progress with the language. If you desire to correspond with him address him at Seybo.

I understand that Dr. Taylor, who was formerly in the Presbyterian Hospital at San Juan, is being thot of for this field. It seems to me that we are fortunate in having two possible candidates.

I am herewith enclosing you a copy of the statement I prepared for the deputation. Probably you have ~~already~~ seen this, yet you may desire to have a copy of it for reference.

I am also enclosing a copy of the letter I have this day written to Mr. Kane, inasmuch as it refers to certain matters related to the Board.

I had been hoping to send you a blue print showing our building, and I also wanted to indicate on it the changes proposed. It may be that on Monday I shall be able to send this.

I am expecting to be in N. Y. about May 30. Mr. Huffmann writes me that he is expecting to sail from N. Y? on June first, so it will be possible for us to meet there, and see each other and confer with you and other members of the Board. If no permanent arrangement for this field has been made at that time, I shall be glad to discuss with you my future relation to the work. Inasmuch as I come here for only six months,(and that time has already expired), my plans were made accordingly, and it is necessary for me to leave the field not later than May 15th going to P.R. to attend to some very important matters, and from there to N. Y., and from there to Iowa.

I regret burdening you with such a long letter, yet the items mentioned I believe to be of vital interest to the work, and I am sure that you will be interested in all. I shall await with much interest your reply.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Philo N. Drury.

BOARD FOR CHRISTIAN WORK IN SANTO DOMINGO

AN ORGANIZATION OF PROTESTANT MISSION BOARDS
WORKING IN SANTO DOMINGO

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

MRS. FRED S. BENNETT, PRESIDENT
SAMUEL G. INMAN, SECRETARY
WHITFORD L. McDOWELL, TREASURER
MRS. MAY LEONARD WOODRUFF
MRS. LILLIAN L. SLACK

25 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

TRUSTEES:

D. D. FORSYTH
A. EDWIN KEIGWIN
MRS. ROSWELL MILLER
ALEXANDER R. NICOL
MRS. WILLIAM P. OLIVER
FRANCIS S. PHRANER
MISS EDNA R. VOSS
AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

71

April 4, 1921.

To the members of the Board for
Christian Work in Santo Domingo,

Dear Friends:

You will probably have received the Minutes of the meeting of the Board held on March 31st. I trust that each of you will go over these with considerable care as it is most important that we should all fully understand and agree with the actions taken. I am writing at this time relative to the budget for the year beginning November 1, 1921. It is necessary in this work to be quite fore-handed so that the work may not suffer by abrupt changes.

According to action taken by our Board some weeks ago, you will remember that a budget of $80,000 was approved for the year 1921-22. This amount to be supplied in equal parts by the four cooperating Boards. It is desirable that the Board for Christian Work in Santo Domingo should have official approval from the Boards of said budget that the work may be planned on a basis fully agreed upon.

So soon as the total budget has been approved by all the Boards, a distribution of it will be made by this Board that the cooperating Boards may know at the beginning of the year when payments will be needed. I am sure we are all clear that when the total budget has been approved by the Boards and the distribution throughout the year agreed upon, the detailed expenditures will have to be left to this Board as otherwise, it would be difficult for the work to proceed without confusion.

If you will be responsible for seeing that your Board sends its formal acceptance for its share of the budget to our secretary, I shall be most grateful.

Very sincerely yours,

(Mrs. F. S.) M. Katharine Bennett

President.

Date April 11th, 1921.

Station Santo Domingo, Cuba.

Party

71

In re Christian work in Santo Domingo.

The School Committee recommends:

That such an adjustment be made in our budget as to insure the sum of $20,000 for the Board of Christian Work in Santo Domingo for their fiscal year November 1st, 1921 to October 31st, 1922.

Date .....

Station .....

Party .....

In re

Approved by Woman's Board

Date 191

.....**Secretary**

Authorized Date of Grant } 191

Amount .....

Approved .....**Clerk of the Board**

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for Miss Torrence;

April 12, 1921.

In accordance with the action of the Board for Christian Work in Santo Domingo at its meeting March 31st, the minutes of which I am attaching, our Board is to pay the remaining $3500 due before the end of the fiscal year of the Board for Christian Work in Santo Domingo as follows;

$875 - July 1st.
$875 - Aug. 1st.
$875 - Sept.1st
$875 - Oct. 1st.

Will you please see that a check for this amount is sent on the dates specified to the Board of Christian Work in Santo Domingo?

When you have made note of these payments will you kindly return the accompanying minutes of the Board meeting of March 31st, to the files.

Superintendent of Schools.

V-L.

Letter to Mrs. F. S. Bennett from Rev. Philo W. Drury, Santo Domingo City, April 14/1921

71

Santo Domingo/ Dominican Republic, April 14, 1921

My dear Mrs. Bennett:

Altho I have not had word from you in reply to my recent letter, another matter related somewhat to the recommendations made in my letter, I desire to bring to your attention. This relates to a temporary arrangement for hospital work, and would merit consideration only on the condition that a physician has already been appointed for work in this field or that one can be secured within a very short time.

The matter is this: Between six and seven months ago two army doctors opened up a private hospital in this city. One of them has been compelled to return to the U. S. on account of ill health, and the other does not feel that he can continue with the hospital. On learning of this I went immediately to see the doctor in charge of the hospital and he told me that while he was not anxious to sell, yet he would consider the matter. On studying the matter I was able to obtain the following information:

A little more than one-half a year ago this hospital was opened up. A building was leased for a period of three years, and the owners of the hospital spent about $1200 on fitting up the building for hospital purposes. The monthly rent on the building is $100. Some $1200 were spent on furnishings. In addition there is an X-Ray outfit that has just been set up that cost $3500. This has never been used owing to a delay in securing electric current from the electric light plant that is now being erected. In all, $700 were spent on putting the hospital in its present condition. There are twelve beds in the hospital all supplied with mattresses, pillows, and linen. The building is tastily fitted up, and for Santo Domingo is a really nice place. The rate charged there has been $7 a day.

In his statement to me the doctor in charge stated that inasmuch as he is connected with the army he has been able to bring in all of the furnishings for the hospital free of duty, and on some of them he was even able to save the freight.

The cash figure at which we are offered this hospital just as it is with the lease for two years and five months is $6000. Yesterday, in view of his familiarity with hospital work, I asked Mr. Allaben to go with me to see the hospital, and together we went over the matter. We both believe that we could do no better than to secure the hospital and there begin our medical work. I therefore recommend that, and furthermore I would recommend that we do not purchase the hospital site referred to in my last letter, but rather that we invest $600 in this work. It is true that the X-Ray outfit seems rather expensive for such a small hospital, but I understand that this is a necessary equipment for efficient hospital work. It is a standard make, and would prove of great value.

I am confident that the rent on the building as it is would not be less than $150 per month. In fact it would be impossible to secure a building in this condition for that amount, so I calculate that we would be saving on rent at least $500 a year by improving this opportunity. This, in the course of the two years and five months would amount to more than $1300, a part of which we would have to count as spent on the permanent improvements that have been made on the premises and which would become the property of the owner. But even then however there would be a big saving, and we would have the advantage of being able to begin our medical work without delay.

Then there are special advantages that we alone would have. The hospital is immediately in front of the building we have purchased, on the side street. Not only would this unite all of our work, but our own building could be used as a home for nurses, and we could also arrange for the clinic here. This would give us additional room in the hospital where we could have at least 18 beds. Having this combination it would be possible for us to open up a nurses' training school, something that is sorely needed here.

Then I take it that the two years and five months, the period of the unexpired lease, would be about what will be needed in order to get our own hospital built and in working condition.

I feel sure that we will do well to improve this opportunity that is offered us provided, as I have stated, that we shall soon have a physician here. Under these circumstances I would ask for $6000 for this purpose, and it might be that at the last moment it would be possible to close the deal at a lower figure.

Inasmuch as I shall be leaving for P.R. before very long, I ask that you cable me your reply. The doctor is also desirous of having an early reply. If reply is favorable the $6000 could be cabled me.

It is a real pleasure for me to bring this matter to the consideration of the Board as I feel that it would mean so much for us to be able to improve an opportunity of this character.

Awaiting with deep interest your reply

Most cordially yours,

(Signed) Philo W. Drury.

71-4

Miss Voss and Miss Torrance

The Scheide Department
Ans.
Date 1921
Noted By

A telephone message from Mrs. Timothy G. Sellew, 462 Park Avenue, Upper Montclair, N. J. tells me that she will give $2000 a year on the salary of Dr. Taylor in Santo Domingo. Of course, we do not apportion to Dr. Taylor, only to Santo Domingo, so much care will need to be taken in the Treasury Department that when Mrs. Sellew's check comes in, it will not be returned to her with a statement that Dr. Taylor is no longer under commission by the Woman's Board. The money will have to be acknowledged on the books and credited to Santo Domingo account. Mrs. Sellew understands that this is interdenominational work.

M.K.B.

71 E.P.C.

BOARD FOR CHRISTIAN WORK IN SANTO DOMINGO

AN ORGANIZATION OF PROTESTANT MISSION BOARDS
WORKING IN SANTO DOMINGO

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:
MRS. FRED S. BENNETT, PRESIDENT
SAMUEL G. INMAN, SECRETARY
WHITFORD L. McDOWELL, TREASURER
MRS. MAY LEONARD WOODRUFF
MRS. LILLIAN L. SLACK

25 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY
149 Dwight Place, Englewood, N. J.

TRUSTEES:
D. D. FORSYTH
A. EDWIN KEIGWIN
MRS. ROSWELL MILLER
ALEXANDER R. NICOL
MRS. WILLIAM P. OLIVER
FRANCIS S. PHRANER
MISS EDNA R. VOSS
AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The School Department
Ans.
Date MAY 14 1921
Noted
By

May 13, 1921

To the members of the
Board for Christian Work in Santo Domingo,

Dear Friends:

That you may be kept in touch with the work in Santo Domingo, I am enclosing to you copies of two letters from Mr. Drury. The first one dated April 2nd did not reach me until April 26th and was immediately followed by one of April 6th enclosing the plan of which Mr. Drury spoke, a little later by one of April 25th which I am also enclosing. Another letter written on April 20th has just come but contains no information that is necessary to add to his letters except the following:

"Yesterday I had another talk with the owner of our proposed hospital site, and I informed him that for the present no more property could be purchased. He kindly consented to wait some time longer and not to sell before consulting with us. This is a worthwhile concession.

The authorization for the expenditure of $1500 on repairs on the building purchased came yesterday, and I have already made arrangements for the plumbing which is of first importance. I shall look after repairs up to $1500, hoping that authorization for a larger sum will be received so that we shall be able to do all we should at once. You should have received my letter in which I made reference to this matter."

Owing to the serious delay in the receipt of Mr. Drury's first letter and the impossibility of getting Board action in time to authorize the $5000 for repairs for which he asked and then to get word to Mr. Drury in time for him to accomplish anything before he left on May 18th, it seemed best to let Mr. Drury put in the necessary repairs with the $1500 already authorized and for the Board to go into this whole matter with Mr. Drury when he comes to New York. No authorization has been given for the purchase of the hospital site and from above quotation you will note that this matter is being held up so that we can talk it over with Mr. Drury when he comes to New York.

In response to the letter of the 14th, I have taken the liberty of writing Mr. Drury that I felt sure that the Board would not wish the X-Ray outfit which we would be unable to use for a long time.

I am sure you all agree with me that when Mr. Drury comes, a full and careful outline of plans must be made for as long a period as possible, as it is only fair to the cooperating bodies and to the workers on the field that we have these. I trust that during the first few days of June when Mr. Drury will be here, we may have a full meeting of our Board and that there may be time enough given to this matter so that we may definitely plan work. I am asking

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that you reserve Thursday, June 2nd for a meeting at 10.30 A.M. and would be very glad if you would return the enclosed postal card in order that we may know whether to plan for this date.

I have had formal answer to my letter of April 4th asking for official approval of the proposed budget ot 1921 - 1922 from but one of the cooperating Boards. If some word relative to this could be had before the proposed meeting of June 2nd, this Board would be better able to plan the work.

I trust that you do not feel that I am too insistent in this matter but I do feel the responsibility for the work and am most anxious to get it on such a basis that it will proceed without confusion.

Very sincerely yours,

(Mrs. F.S.) M. Katharine Bennett

President of Board for Christian Work in Santo Domingo.

MKB/S

Please return

71/4.

Copy this

COOKE & MARVIN
31 NASSAU STREET
NEW YORK

HEDLEY V. COOKE
ARTHUR L. MARVIN
WILLIAM D. AHEARN

GENERAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE
REC'D 22 JUN 1921
ANS'D
BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS

June 13, 1921.

Woman's Board of Home Missions,
[illegible] Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

Attention of Miss Dawson.
Re: Board for Christian Work in Santo Domingo.

My dear Miss Dawson:-

I have examined the proposed charter which you sent me to-day and can comment only upon the form of it because, except for the very brief outline you gave me over the telephone, I am not familiar with the objects to be accomplished. Furthermore, I have not been able this afternoon to look up the law of the District of Columbia regarding charitable corporations.

It seems to me, however, that the form of the charter is quite satisfactory with one possible exception, that is, that the various societies now named are not distinctly stated to be co-operating bodies. The third paragraph has a reference to co-operating bodies. Then, in the fourth paragraph, the various Boards now interested are named and, in the eighth paragraph, the Board of Trustees is given authority to admit other co-operating bodies. In the sixth paragraph there is a reference from which the inference can be drawn that the Boards named in paragraph four are co-operating bodies.

It would seem to me advisable to insert a new paragraph between the present third and fourth paragraphs, defining a co-operating body and stating by name that the various Boards specified in paragraph four are co-operating bodies.

June 13, 1921.

Woman's Board of Home Missions,-

The only other comment that I have to make on the charter, is to call your attention to the provisions of paragraph nine. Under the provisions of this paragraph, if your Board should determine to withdraw or if, upon a two-thirds vote of the Trustees, your connection with the society should be severed, your Board would have no interest in any of the property of the society. If it is the intention of your Board merely to contribute funds to the current work of the society, this provision is not onerous but, if you should turn over to the society property of substantial value, it would deserve further consideration. In that case, you would want to be assured that all the other co-operating societies turned over property of substantially equal value and took the same chances on the success of mutual co-operation as yourself.

The by-laws of the proposed society will be of considerable importance to you and I assume that a definite commitment would not be made until the principal by-laws have been agreed upon.

I am returning you herewith the copy of the proposed charter which you sent me to-day and in which I have marked a couple of typographical errors.

Very truly yours,

Arthur L. Warnin.

Enclosure

ALM/GOC

E.P.V.

71

BOARD FOR CHRISTIAN WORK IN SANTO DOMINGO

AN ORGANIZATION OF PROTESTANT MISSION BOARDS
WORKING IN SANTO DOMINGO

25 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:
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AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

June 24, 1921.

To the members of the Board for
Christian Work in Santo Domingo.

Dear Friends:

You will recall that at the meeting of this Board held on June 7th, it was felt that the progress of the work in Santo Domingo demanded the appointment of a superintendent, as it seemed evident that Mr. Huffman would be so engaged with his responsibilities in the city that he could do nothing for the furtherance of the work outside Santo Domingo City. It was, therefore, voted that "a call be extended to Mr. Drury to accept the superintendency of the Santo Domingo work at a salary of $1,800 per year, plus children's allowance of $150 per child, plus 10% of the basic rate for residence in the capital city, plus 15% as head of the work, plus house rent. The Board feels that Mr. Drury's experience and present acquaintance with the work fits him for this responsibility in a peculiar way, and requests that he give this call earnest consideration."

I am writing you now because of a letter which has just been received from Mr. Drury in reply to this request from our Board in which he says that he cannot reach a decision until he has been able to settle some personal affairs as well as his relation to the work in Porto Rico. It has seemed to me in considering the two problems presented by Mr. Drury that solutions might be found in the following way if you approve of negotiations of the following kind being entered into and would commit to those at headquarters the power to make these possible adjustments.

(1) As to Porto Rico. I would like to enter into correspondence with Mr. Drury to learn whether it would be possible for him to handle both the work in Porto Rico and the superintendency of the Santo Domingo work, a fair salary adjustment being made between the agencies of the two islands.

(2) As to Mr. Drury's family. There are no educational facilities for his three children in Santo Domingo. One of them is in college and two in High School and he would of necessity have to leave them in this country, Mrs. Drury accompanying him. Naturally this is a large financial problem when considered in connection with the amount that Mr. Drury is to receive. I have wondered whether it would be fair and right to add to the amount offered Mr. Drury toward the children's education the amount that travel would cost if he should take the children with him. According to our

usual travel agreement he would be entitled to travel expenses for his family. As some decision in this matter will have to be reached at an early date, I would be very glad to hear from you promptly as to whether we might enter into negotiations with Mr. Drury along these two lines.

You will be interested to know that Dr. Taylor will sail on July 2nd.

Very sincerely yours,

(Mrs. F.S.) M. Catherine Bennett

President.

Excerpt from Mrs. Bennett's letter to Miss Voss dated September 20th, 1921.

"I am now in this paragraph writing you in my capacity as chairman of the Board for Christian Work in Santo Domingo. I do not know whether you have heard that the Porto Rican people purchased the equipment of the hospital that was run by the army surgeons and presented it to us and Dr. Taylor reports that there is an immediate demand for the fullest use of its twelve beds. A letter just received from him says: 'Doubtless you would be interested in the report of the medical work for the fifteen days of the month that we were running last month. We had eighty-five patients, performed five operations, two of them with general anesthetia, and took in $52.00. Considering all that we are fighting against it seems to me that we have a right to be very much encouraged. A letter from Mr. Orr to Mr. Huffmann the other day says that they are sending over some articles of equipment from Mayaguez. The sterilizer has already arrived so now as soon as a nurse arrives we will be ready to really open our little hospital and then it looks as if the work would really begin. I have had a number of requests for operations from people who have suffered for years but have never had the money to have the work done. I have had two who are past that stage and I can do nothing for. It will be a big add for our little place if we can do a few operations as there is a great need for surgery here.' "

71

Suggested draft of
letter.

Board for Christian Work in
Santo Domingo,
25 Madison Avenue,
New York City.

Gentlemen:

This is to inform you that the Woman's Board of Home Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A. approves the Certificate of Incorporation of the Board for Christian Work in Santo Domingo, and authorizes the Hon. S. J. Peale, Bishop William F. McDowell and Rev. Wallace Radcliffe, to act as incorporators for the Board for Christian Work in Santo Domingo under the Certificate of Incorporation as submitted to this society.

Mrs. M. Katharine Bennett and Miss Edna Voss have been appointed by this Board as its trustees on the Board of Trustees of the Board for Christian Work in Santo Domingo.

Yours faithfully,

General Secretary.

July 10, 1922.

Mr. S. C. Inman.
25 Madison Avenue.
New York City.

My dear Mr. Inman:

I have just heard from Miss Clara B. Mason of Mayaguez in answer to my letter asking for possible Porto Rican teachers for our proposed school work in Santo Domingo. She writes as follows:

"I believe either Angelina Guilleni or Carmen Andujar would do acceptable work if they desire to go. They are both members of the Presbyterian Church, Carmen of the Marina and Angelina of Cabo Rojo, and teachers in the public schools, lower grades; Carmen in the Playa of Mayaguez and Angelina in the Cave Rojo, her home town.

"The latter is the stronger Christian. Having graduated at the Colegio some ten odd years ago. She taught in the Marina two years, and had one summer term on scholarship which I secured for her here at Chautauqua in kindergarten work. She went into public school work because of larger salary, and also to be at home with her father and sister. She is reliable, efficient and trustworthy.

"Carmen studied at Rio Piedras; is a successful teacherand teaches in our S.S. She has a married sister and an uncle and some other relatives in St. Domingo. She is not as strong a Christian as Angelina, but has not had the opportunities in this line that Angelina had. She is an orphan, raised by her aunt who lives near us. They are a good moral family, but not very well developed along the religious line, so that what she has accomplished under the conditions she has lived is a promise. I think of what might reasonably be expected under good leadership as she would, no doubt, have in the St. Domingo work. It would do the Porto Rican people a great deal of good to have some of their young women go to another island to work. It is high time that the Porto Rican girls felt some responsibility in this, and did not make salary or convenience the first object in choosing."

I shall do nothing in this matter, but leave it to you to write directly to these two girls if you wish. Mrs. Bennett knows and approves of my sending these two names to you.

Sincerely yours,

V.S. Superintendent of Public Work.

71

September 28, 1925.

My dear Mr. Inman:

I am not at all sure that I am ready to thank you for the note informing me that I am Chairman of the Committee on Education of the Santo Domingo Board. I am leaving the office for a short trip South, but hope to be back before the 19th, for which date I shall call a meeting of the Committee.

I shall be out of the City for a few days before the trip South, but hope to be in the office next Tuesday and part of Wednesday. Can you let me know by that time what printed material you have over at 25 Madison Avenue on Public Education in Santo Domingo or other Latin-American countries, which would be helpful to me in getting a background for our own policy there.

Any suggestion will be most gratefully received.

Very sincerely yours,

Superintendent of Field Work.

Mr. S.G.Inman,Sec'y.
Bd. of Christian Work in Santo Domingo,
25 Madison Ave., N.Y.City.

Vs

BOARD FOR CHRISTIAN WORK IN SANTO DOMINGO

AN ORGANIZATION OF PROTESTANT MISSION BOARDS WORKING IN SANTO DOMINGO

71

25 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

MRS. FRED S. BENNETT, PRESIDENT
SAMUEL G. INMAN, SECRETARY
WHITFORD L. McDOWELL, TREASURER
MRS. MAY LEONARD WOODRUFF
MRS. LILLIAN L. SLACK

TRUSTEES:

D. D. FORSYTH
I. MOYER HERSHEY
A. EDWIN KEIGWIN
MRS. ROSWELL MILLER
MRS. WILLIAM P. OLIVER
PRANCIS S. PHRANER
MISS EDNA R. VOSS
S. G. ZIEGLER
AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Ans. 9/28/23
SEP 27 1923

September 27, 1923.

Miss Edna Voss,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Miss Voss:

This is to inform you that you have been appointed chairman of the Committee on Education of the Santo Domingo Board with the following members: Dr. W. L. McDowell, Mrs. Woodruff and Mr. Hershey.

I do not need to stress the importance of the work of the Committee as you are fully aware of it. I hope an early meeting can be arranged. It might be possible to hold one on October 19th, the same day we are calling a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Santo Domingo Board, which should bring Dr. W. L. McDowell to New York.

Yours faithfully,

S G Inman

IE/S

September 28, 1925.

My dear Mrs. Woodruff:

I have just received word from Mr. Dunn of my appointment as Chairman of the Committee on Education of the Santo Domingo Board. This Committee will have as its first task the outlining of the policy of the Board of Trustees for its Educational work in Santo Domingo, and the drawing up of a program in accordance with that policy.

Can you meet with me directly after the meeting of the Board, October 19th? It seems to me that at this time we might at least tentatively outline our task.

I shall appreciate your letting me know if the time suggested is convenient.

Very sincerely yours,

Superintendent of Field Work.

Mrs. May L. Woodruff,
Allendale, N.J.

V:S

Folder

S.H.M.M.

BOARD FOR CHRISTIAN WORK IN SANTO DOMINGO

AN ORGANIZATION OF PROTESTANT MISSION BOARDS
WORKING IN SANTO DOMINGO

25 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

The School Department
Ans.
Date OCT 6 1921
Noted
By

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:
MRS. FRED S. BENNETT, PRESIDENT
SAMUEL G. INMAN, SECRETARY
WHITFORD L. McDOWELL, TREASURER
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MRS. WILLIAM P. OLIVER
FRANCIS S. PHRANER
MISS EDNA R. VOSS
AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

October 5, 1921.

For information only.

To the members of the Board for
Christian Work in Santo Domingo

Dear Friends:

I am sure that you will be interested to receive a copy of the following bulletin from Mr. Huffman in Santo Domingo. It seems desirable that we should all be informed as to the work being done. Mr. Huffman writes:

I. Public services. Regular Sunday School, preaching services and prayer meetings have been opened in each of the three points occupied. At San Pedro de Macoris the average attendance in the Sunday School and preaching services has been sixty, at La Romana and the Capital fifty.

Ten persons were baptised at San Pedro de Macoris and two at La Romana. One of the latter was a Nation who heard the Gospel in his own country, but had never been able to unite with a protestant church on account of the opposition of his family.

There have been twenty four professions of faith in the capital and a class has been organized to instruct them with a view of preparing them for church membership.

II. The Book Store. A book store has been opened in a room in our building in the Capital. A young man from Macoris was in charge up to August 31st. He has returned home to go to school and another young man Juan Gonzales, of the capital, is in charge. The sales have not been large, amounting in August to $17.16. This does not include the sales made by the different pastors on their charges.

III. The Hospital. According to your instructions, Dr. Hildreth, of San Juan, Porto Rico, accompanied by Rev. Wm. Orr, came over to inspect the hospital equipment offered us by Dr. Deemer. With funds collected by the churches in Porto Rico they purchased this equipment and a lease on a building across the street from our property in the Capital. The purchase price was two thousand five hundred dollars. Dr. Taylor has begun his work in the place and reports for the first two weeks eighty five patients and $52 in fees. A trained nurse is greatly needed in order that the doctor may care for operative cases, a number of which have had to be turned away.

Inf. L

We are much disturbed over the fact that to date we have not been able to find nurses to go to Santo Domingo. Three have been under consideration but no one as yet has accepted work there. We must have two nurses and need them at once. If they can speak Spanish it will be much better. If any of you know of nurses, will you see if you cannot persuade such to undertake this work? We shall use every effort to find the necessary people but need all the cooperation we can secure.

Very sincerely yours,

M Katharine Bennett.

(Mrs. F.S.)

Chairman.

MKB/EHS

January 26, 1922.

Board for Christian Work in
Santo Domingo
25 Madison Avenue
New York City

Gentlemen:

This is to inform you that the Woman's Board of Home Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A. approves the Certificate of Incorporation of the Board for Christian Work in Santo Domingo, and authorizes the Hon. S. J. Peale, Bishop William F. McDowell and Rev. Wallace Radcliffe, to act as incorporators for the Board for Christian Work in Santo Domingo under the Certificate of Incorporation as submitted to this society.

Mrs. M. Katharine Bennett and Miss Edna Voss have been appointed by this Board as its trustees on the Board of Trustees of the Board for Christian Work in Santo Domingo.

Yours faithfully,

mk

General Secretary.

MMP

October 29, 1925.

Conference with Dr. Harris relative to a policy for educational work in Santo Domingo.

Dr. Harris thinks that any policy for educational work in Santo Domingo should be a growth from the inside out, that is, that [redacted] policy should be worked out at headquarters to be superimposed on Santo Domingo. He advises finding a young student of education - if possible one who was brought up in Latin America - who with his wife will go to Santo Domingo with the idea of working out an educational system, taking a year if necessary to study all the conditions before making recommendation to the Board of Trustees for the establishment of a school.

Dr. Harris believes that to establish a central school will be a mistake but this other should be a superintendent of educational work but that the actual work should be done in several towns as day schools, these to carry regular grades from kindergarten or primary through the eighth and to include garden, health work, domestic science and art, and intensive Bible and religious education.

Dr. Harris believes that Porto Rico is sufficiently in advance in its education to be the center of higher education for all the West Indies. He believes that the brightest of our eighth grade pupils could be sent to Porto Rico to secure definite training for definite service in Santo Domingo. His Piedras could give theological training to the boys, kindergarten and normal school training to girls who are to become teachers, Miss Haven could give kindergarten training and general social and recreational work required by community workers. His own school, the Polytechnic, could give straight high school and college work.

As to the character of the day schools, Dr. Harris emphasizes that the Latin American will not respond to any frills. He wants straight reading, writing, arithmetic, science and language. Dr. Harris believes we should give a community what it wants, what he really asks for, developing as the community's needs and requests grow.

As to teachers for the day schools, he suggests Porto Rican teachers, thus we could secure high school and junior college graduates with some training in methods who would be real missionaries. He suggests a salary of $1,000 a year without maintenance for ten months, with traveling expenses to and from Porto Rico.

For a director he suggests we write to some of the smaller colleges in this country to see if they have among their graduating students or among their graduates a man or woman who has been connected in some way with Latin America, possibly a child of missionary parents, one who has Christian work in mind and who wants a life sized job.

Superintendent of Field Work.

VP

71

November 20, 1923.

Rev. N. H. Huffman,
Santo Domingo City,
Santo Domingo.

My dear Mr. Huffman:

As you have undoubtedly heard by this time, the delegation to Santo Domingo in January has as one of its main objects the study of the field for the purpose of establishing an educational program. I am chairman of [illegible] committee of the trustees and wish to present to the members of that committee as well as to the delegates to Santo Domingo as much material on this phase of our study as possible before we start for Santo Domingo. The more background of knowledge we have the better will we be able to judge when we arrive. In view of this I am going to ask you to send me at once every scrap of information bearing on this subject of education in Santo Domingo that you can find. I think we should understand perfectly the present conditions - educational - existing in Santo Domingo. We should know the number of children of school age, the number of those at present in school by ages, the amount of money spent by the Dominican Government in education according to the types of school - elementary, secondary, normal, rural, city, etc. We shall, of course, want to know the character of these schools, the requirements for teachers, salaries paid, etc., etc., etc.

I am wondering whether printed material can be secured from the Director of Education in Santo Domingo. Would this all be in Spanish? If it is I fear we shall have to have the essential facts gleaned by you or someone else and sent to us with the printed material. As chairman of [illegible] committee I shall very much appreciate any opinions or recommendations from you which we may be thinking over and keeping in mind in our study of the whole educational situation. I feel sure that you have in your own mind pretty definite ideas as to what the need is and how best our Board can meet that need.

You can't know how delighted I am that I am actually going to see the work in Santo Domingo at first hand. Please remember me to your co-workers.

Best wishes,

Very sincerely yours,

Superintendent of Field Work.

W/P

MRK

The Institute of International Education

522 Fifth Avenue, New York

Telephone Vanderbilt 9781
Cable Address: "Intered"

71

ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD
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ANSON PHELPS STOKES

STEPHEN P. DUGGAN, PH.D.
DIRECTOR

MARY L. WAITE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

School Department
12/4/23
DEC 4 - 1923

November 30, 1923

Miss Edna R. Voss
Superintendent of Field Work
Woman's Board of Home Missions
156 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y.

My dear Miss Voss:

Replying to your letter of November 12th concerning the public school system in Santo Domingo, I beg to advise you as follows:

Public instruction in general is now receiving all possible attention from the Government. A commission appointed by the Government investigated throroughly the educational situation and based on its findings prepared and recommended the following laws:

Compulsory school attendance
School administration
General studies
University law
Theological Seminary
Organic law of public education
School revenues

The first six laws were promulgated in April, 1918, and constitute the school code of the country.

There are about 650 rural schools with an enrollment of 50,000, where work in agriculture is prominent, most of them having a school garden.

There are about 200 primary schools, 7 secondary and normal schools, 6 industrial schools for girls, 2 schools of fine arts, 2 correctional schools, and the Central University at the capital.

The total school attendance is about 100,000 and the number of teachers of all classes in actual service is about 1,475.

Under the new laws the country is divided into six school departments and each department into school districts, there being 50 of these. Each department is under pme superintendent, and each district has an inspector, who is the supervisor of the schools of the district. There is also a board of education and a general superintend-

ent for the whole country. At present there is a strong movement in all districts for the building of school houses. The local associations of parents are the principal force back of this movement, and as a result of their action 150 school houses have been built.

According to the latest information on file, Mr. C. A. Rodríguez is at present Secretary of State for Justice and Public Instruction of Santo Domingo, with whom possibly you may desire to communicate for further data. He should be addressed at Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

Sincerely yours,

Stephen G. Duggan

SPD:MRW

Director

S.P.D.

The Institute of International Education

522 Fifth Avenue, New York

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State Department
DEC 5 - 1923

December 4, 1923

Miss Edna R. Voss
Superintendent of Field Work
Woman's Board of Home Missions
156 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y.

My dear Miss Voss:

The information contained in our letter of November 30th, concerning the public school system in Santo Domingo, was obtained from the War Department in Washington. Since your inquiry was received, I have had a talk with Dr. Samuel G. Inman of the Committee on Cooperation in Latin America, and upon my request he has sent us a letter containing information in his possession regarding the school system of Santo Domingo. I enclose a copy of this letter. I would suggest that if you desire further details you may communicate directly with Dr. Inman at 25 Madison Avenue, New York.

Sincerely yours,

Stephen P. Duggan

Director

SPD:MRW
Enclosure

Committee on Cooperation in Latin America
25, Madison Avenue, New York

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November 27, 1923

The School Department
Ans.
DEC 5 - 1923

Dr. Stephen P. Duggan
522 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Dr. Duggan:

Referring to your inquiry concerning the public school system of Santo Domingo:

You will understand that the public schools system, as well as all other departments of the government, has been in the hands of the United States Marines and the Rear-Admiral of the Navy, who has been the Military Governor of Santo Domingo since 1916. At the present time a provisional government of Dominicans has just been set up and they will be having their elections in a short time and the United States is preparing to turn over the republic again to the Dominicans themselves.

Educational conditions, of course, are very primitive, The University in Santo Domingo City is a small and limited institution. Besides this there are four or five high schools, which have been established by the American Occupation but some of these, I believe, are now closed on account of lack of funds. I just had a letter from Santo Domingo a few days ago which reports this situation.

Without going into details, therefore, it seems to me that if the party who is making inquiry would care to wait for a couple of months I could give them the latest statistics. This happens because a deputation of which I am the Chairman is going to Santo Domingo to study the educational conditions there. A representative from Teachers College and one from Swarthmore College, and representatives from the Board for Christian Work in Santo Domingo will make this study, with the idea of beginning an educational program to match their medical, social and religious program, which they have already begun. I am enclosing a leaflet also which will tell you about this work, which is being carried out along the broadest Christian lines, with the elimination of all denominationalism and narrow propaganda.

I should be very glad to talk with the parties who are seeking this information if they are interested in doing anything for Santo Domingo in an educational way. Let me know if I can be of further service along this line.

Yours cordially,

(signed) S. G. Inman

E.P.V.

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December 19, 1923.

Miss H. M. Ecklund,
Secretary to Mr. Inman,
25 Madison Ave., New York.

My dear Miss Ecklund:

Miss Voss finds that she has lost a good many of the Minutes of the Board for Christian Work in Santo Domingo and that she, therefore, lacks some information which she would like to have before starting on the trip in January. May I trouble you to send me the following information for her:

What was the date of incorporation of the Board of Trustees?

May I also have the name, address, salary and duties of each worker in Santo Domingo? Also the names and number of towns in which these people work.

Regretting any inconvenience this may cause you, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Office Secretary.

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Memorandum for Miss Voss: December 19, 1923.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES for Santo Domingo

It was voted Nov. 15, 1923 to elect as Trustees from Feb. 20, 1923 for a period of three years:

Dr. Raymond Hildreth
Mr. John T. Vance, Jr.
Mrs. Walter C. Lotte

and to continue as Trustees:
Mr. S. G. Inman
Mrs. Rosell Miller.

December 21, 1923.

My dear Miss Ecklund,

This is just a line to acknowledge receipt of your letter of December 20th enclosing the information for which I had asked. Thank you very much for sending this to us so promptly.

Very sincerely yours,

Office Secretary.

Miss Helen Ecklund,
25 Madison Ave.,
New York, N.Y.
G/L.

BOARD FOR CHRISTIAN WORK IN SANTO DOMINGO

AN ORGANIZATION OF PROTESTANT MISSION BOARDS WORKING IN SANTO DOMINGO

25 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

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MRS. WILLIAM P. OLIVER
PRANCIS S. PHRANER
MISS EDNA R. VOSS
S. G. ZIEGLER

AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The School Department
Ans. 12-21-23
DEC 21 1923

December 20th, 1923.

Miss Florence Goddard,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

My dear Miss Goddard:

In reply to your request of yesterday I am enclosing a list on which appear the names and addresses of all the workers in Santo Domingo, whose work has been reported to the Board here. You will find also the names of two out-stations where evangelistic services are conducted. There may be quite a few native or Porto Rican persons employed in other departments of the work besides the hospital but if so we have no word of it.

The Board was incorporated under the law of the District of Columbia on February 20, 1922.

Yours faithfully,

Helen M. Eklund

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S.R.V.

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JUNTA PARA SERVICIO CRISTIANO
EN LA
REPUBLICA DOMINICANA

OFICINA EN NEW YORK
25 AVENIDA MADISON
SAMUEL G. INMAN
SECRETARIO

OFICINA EN LA REPUBLICA DOMINICANA
SANTO DOMINGO, R. D.
NATHAN HARLAN HUFFMAN
SUPERINTENDENTE

The School Department
Ans.
Date JAN 14 1924
Noted
By

Dec. 29 1923.

Miss Edna R.Voss
156 Fifth Ave.
New York City.

Dear Miss Voss:

You will be interested in the inclosed report of the final examinations in our little school in San Cristobal.

This was written by the Inspector who was present, altho he does not sign his name to the report.

After allowing for the exagerations characteristic of the Latin race, the article still contains a suggestion as to the need and opportunity of educational work in this country.

I have just learned that a reduction of 33% has been ordered in the salaries of teachers with the view of opening all the schools next year.When you remember that the salary of the rural teacher is $40 you will see that with this reduction, the teacher will receive a little over $28. This means incompetent teachers and a defeat of the plan, for many schools will continue closed for the lack of teachers.

Yours very truly,

Nathan H. Huffman

Translation of a communication
published in the Listin Diario
Dec. 28 1923.

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The School Department
Ans.
JAN 14 1924

School Examinations in San Cristobal

Blessed are those who bring to the mind
of the childred, the light of knowlege,
and to the heart, wholesome morality,
from whatever source it may come-----

On the 21st Inst in this town were held in the Evangelical school the final examinations of the year; which I had the good fortune to witness, having arrived at this place the day previous, and I noted that in no respect did the system followed vary from the official Rules and Programs? The examinations gave as a result the grade of VERY GOOD---

While the teachers were engaged in their task, mingled satisfaction and pain invaded my spirit and I asked myself: Is this in reality a great work of charity which is being executed by these good souls who preach every where wholesome morality and the Gospel? Are they aiming at a constructive or destructive program? Time will tell.

It seems incredible that while the Dominican schools remain for the most part closed, for one reason or another, depriving thousands of childred of the bread of instruction, the Charitable Mission should take advantage of these circumstances and decide to introduce into these completely empty temples the key, unlocking the door, in order that the light may enter and shine into every nook and corner. Realizing that every school door that closes opens a door into the penitentiary, they found schools here, there and yonder, soon filled with puplis, and at the head of these schools they place Dominican teachers, giving to the childred the bead of instruction and to the teachers material bread, denied them by the government.

Against whom, then can complaint be made? Will it be possible to prevent this mass of childred from realizing that their instruction and preparation for the struggle of life are due solely and exclusively to the Evangelical School? Will there be parents of Dominican childred who will teach their childred not to be grateful for so great a benefit?

If the present chaotic condition of instruction (in an economic sense) continues, the day is not far distant, when 50% of our Dominican schools will be supported by the Evangelical Church; and it would be a lack of common honesty not to confess that to it is due a debt of gratitude, and not to acknowlege that it has achieved a real victory in its endeavors. ----Upon whom will fall the blame? Time will tell.

Up to the present there is in this school an enrollment of seventy two, of whom fifty two were examined. The teachers are Mrs. Chapeuseaut and Misses Adriana Leger and Julita Ortega, all Dominicans. It was noted that in this school nothing is inculcated contrary to our Apostolic, Roman Religion---; but when we come to

open our eyes, it will be too late, and then to whom shall we make complaint?

The following persons attended the examinations: Mrs. Huffman, Mrs. Smith, Miss Katherine Fribley, Mrs. Prat and another American lady whose name I am unable to recall: Mr. Nathan H. Huffman, Principle of the Mission, the Mayor and President of the City Council, Mr. Bienvenido Betances, Inspector of Public Instruction in Bani, several young ladies of the town and the writer.

The examining Commission was highly pleased with the work accomplished, finding the pupils well advanced.

The Evangelical Mission has great plans for the coming year. It purposes to establish schools on the highest and most beautiful of our mountains, also to erect a large building for an institute. If we do not open our eyes, blinded now by the scaffolding of our local politics, we shall find ourselves taken by surprise.

A most appropiate end was given to the edifying act in the singing by the children of dur beautiful National Hymn.

The writer closes offering to the Charitable Evangelical Mission his warmest congratulations, trusting that its labor may continue to redound to the good of the public in general.

A Transient.

Note:- A slip of the typewriter caused me to omit the name of the Dominican gentleman, Mr. Ramón Prat, the alma mater of this work, and who figured as the president of the examing committee.

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January 4, 1924.

My dear Mr. Huffman:

Thank you for the report on public instruction. I am not trying to digest this in these last busy days in finishing up work in the office preparatory to my trip to the tropics but am putting it with other things to be studied en route.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary.

Mr. Nathan H. Huffman,
Santo Domingo City,
Santo Domingo.

W/P

JUNTA PARA SERVICIO CRISTIANO
EN LA
REPUBLICA DOMINICANA

71

OFICINA EN NEW YORK
25 AVENIDA MADISON
SAMUEL G. INMAN
SECRETARIO

OFICINA EN LA REPUBLICA DOMINICANA
SANTO DOMINGO, R. D.
NATHAN HARLAN HUFFMAN
SUPERINTENDENTE

Dec. 19 1923.

Miss Edna R.Voss
156 Fifth Avenue
New York City.

My dear Miss Voss:

I am delighted to know that you are to form part of the deputation that is to visit us soon. This is something for which we have been long waiting.

I sincerely trust that your visit may result in a definite educational policy for the Mission.

Inclosed you will find some items of information concerning the educational system of the republic. You will note that due to economic conditions the work of public instruction has been very seriously interrupted.

t. Mr. Inman

I am sending some numbers of the review published by the Department of Education, all in Spanish, and some what out of date, but which at least give some information of interest. The publication has been discontinued for lack of funds.

We look forward, therefore, with pleasure to your visit and trust that nothing may interfere with the carrying out of your plans.

Yours very truly,

Nathan H. Huffman

For Miss Sosa
from Nathan W. Huffman
Santo Domingo, R. D.

Report of Public Instruction
Dec. 17 1923.

In the Dominican Republic public instruction is free. It is obligatory for children of both sexes from seven to fourteen years of age.

Schools are divided into Primary, Secondary and Superior. Primary instruction embraces two schools, Rudamentary, which is purely elementary, principally for rural districts and villages, and the Graded School, subdivided into four grades and eight courses, embracing the whole cycle of primary education, properly so-called, from the elemental to the superior primary school.

Secondary Instruction is ~~pursued~~ given in the Normal schools in which the students are prepared for the teaching profession or to continue higher studies in the University of Santo Domingo. The branches taught in the secondary schools are comprised in seven groups, distributed over four school years: Languages, Mathematics, Physicial and Natural Sciences, History and Social Sciences, Commerce, Drawing and divers vocational courses. These courses are in part obligatory and in part elective, and are distributed so as to prepare the student adequately for the superior studies he may take up, upon entering later on in the University.

The Superior studies are pursued in the University of Santo Domingo and comprise the following faculties: Medicine, Law, Mathematics, Pharmacy, Obstretics, Dentistry.

For the purpose of instruction the Republic is divided into six departments, which are in turn subdivided fifty one school districts.

Each school district is in charge of an Inspector of Public Instruction, to whom are subordinated the directors of the primary schools; at the head of each department there is an Intendant of Instruction, to whom are subordinated the Inspectors of Public Instruction of his jurisdiction. The Intendants act under the immediate orders of a General Superintendent of Instruction, who in turn is under the National Council of Education.

In the Republic the number of children of school age reaches 200,000. At present the school service, due to economic reasons, is exceedingly limited. In almost all of the comunes the schools are closed. The are open only in Santo Domingo, San Pedro de Maceris, Duvergé, Neyba, Bánica, Comendador, El Cercado, Las Matas, Dajabón, Restauración, Puerto Plata, Ramón Santana and Sanchez.

The number of pupils enrolled in the public schools hardly reaches 25,000. Two hundred thirteen schools are running, of which 46 are private and 167 public. The total number of teachers employed is 545.

rural

It may be repeated that the school service at present is in a crisis. The situation was quite different in the year 1920, as indicated by the statistics. In 1920 there were 783 schools,131 primary graded schools,six secondary,two correctional,eleven professional,fifty four night schools and one university.The enrollment was 100,000/ The Government spent on education $1,382,103 and the city councils $486,369 in addition. The rural teachers received $55 a month for six hours of work a day,the graded schools teachers $60 to $80 for five hours, and the principals of graded schools $90 to $125. Rural teachers at present receive $40 a month.

In virtue of the Organic Law of Public Instruction any person,corporation,society or group may establish schools and teach any branch, with previos license nor subjection to rules, methods, official texts,except primary education which is subject to official rules, programs and texts.